

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 115992
ORIGIN OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01
AID-05 XMB-02 PA-01 /034 R

DRAFTED BY OPIC/D:JCDILL:BD
APPROVED BY EB/IFD/OIA:M P BOERNER
OPIC/P:EABURTON(DRAFT)
OPIC/PA:RLJORDAN(DRAFT)
AF/C:RKKATES
OPIC/VP/D:R SMITH
EB/IFD/OIA:DVGRANT
-----034573 060956Z /21
R 060127Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 115992

FROM OPIC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, CF, US

SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPIC PROGRAM RESUMPTION

REF: BRAZZAVILLE 0383

1. OPIC APPRECIATES EMBASSY CONCURRENCE IN REFTEL FOR
RESUMPTION OF OPIC PROGRAMS IN CONGO. OPIC WISHES TO
APOLOGIZE FOR INCONVENIENCE AND TROUBLE CAUSED EMBASSY BY
INCORRECT INFORMATION CONCERNING NEED FOR GOC NOTE PRIOR
TO RESUMPTION OF PROGRAM. IF THERE HAD BEEN A FORMAL
BREAK IN RELATIONS BETWEEN COUNTRIES, A NOTE WOULD HAVE
BEEN REQUIRED. OPIC REGRETS ITS CONFUSION ON THIS POINT
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PAGE 02 STATE 115992

AND CONSEQUENT UNNECESSARY EFFORTS BY EMBASSY.

2. OPIC PROPOSES LOW-KEY ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESUMPTION OF
PROGRAMS. AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL, PROPOSED TEXT FOR
ARTICLE IN OPIC'S BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOLLOWS:

"OPIC HAS ACTIVATED ITS INSURANCE AND FINANCE PROGRAMS IN

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE). OPIC'S ACTION IS IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE CONGO AND THE COUNTRY'S STATED INTEREST IN ATTRACTING PRIVATE U.S. INVESTMENT."

"WHILE OFFICIALLY SOCIALIST, THE CONGOLESE GOVERNMENT DOES RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO BE PLAYED BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN ITS NATION'S DEVELOPMENT. THE GOVERNMENT IS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN ATTRACTING AMERICAN INVESTMENT PROJECTS INVOLVING HIGH TECHNOLOGY. SPECIFIC AREAS OF INTEREST INCLUDE OIL EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION, FORESTRY AND TIMBER PRODUCTS, THE MANUFACTURE OF AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT AND INPUTS, AND AN INTERNATIONAL-CLASS HOTEL IN BRAZZAVILLE."

"APPROXIMATELY HALF OF THE CONGO IS COVERED BY TROPICAL FORESTS, WHICH INCLUDE IMPORTANT AMOUNTS OF MAHOGANY (OKOUME) AND AFRICAN OAK. IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT FOREST PRODUCTS (MOSTLY LOGS) ARE THE NATION'S MAJOR EXPORT, THE FORESTS ARE NOT EXTENSIVELY EXPLOITED. PRINCIPAL CASH FARM CROPS ARE PEANUTS, PALM KERNELS, COFFEE, COCOA, AND SUGAR. IMPORTANT FOOD CROPS INCLUDE CORN, BEANS, RICE, AND MANIOC. MUCH OF THE CONGO'S FARMING IS OF A SUBSISTENCE TYPE. OCEAN FISH RESOURCES ARE ABUNDANT AND URBAN DEMAND IS HIGH. CATTLE BREEDING, HOWEVER, IS NOT WELL DEVELOPED, BEING HAMPERED BY LARGE FOREST AREAS AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 115992

THE TSETSE FLY. THE GREAT BULK OF THE COUNTRY'S MEAT MUST BE IMPORTED. THE CONGO IS A MODEST PRODUCER AND EXPORTER OF PETROLEUM AND IS ACTIVELY SEEKING NEW OFFSHORE DEPOSITS. END OF QUOTE

3. OPIC WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY CABLE INSTRUCTIONS RE PROPER GOC OFFICE AND INCUMBENT FOR U.S. INVESTORS TO APPLY FOR GOC APPROVAL FOR OPIC COVERAGE OF PROJECTS, OR "FGA," AS DESCRIBED IN INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL POUCHED PREVIOUSLY. CHRISTOPHER

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ORIGIN OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-08 /025 R

16011

DRAFTED BY:OPIC/D:JCDILL

APPROVED BY:EB/IFD/OIA:DVGRANT

OPIC/P:EABURTON(DRAFT)

OPIC/PA:RLJORDAN(DRAFT)

OPIC/VP/D:RSSMITH

AF/C:RKKATES

-----029765 190503Z /15

P 190445Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE PRIORITY

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FROM OPIC

FOL STATE 115992 SENT ACTION BRAZZAVILLE MAY 6, 1978 REPEATED
TO YOU QUOTE

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INVESTMENT PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780585/aaaacvbs.tel
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: EINV, CF, US, OPIC
To: BRAZZAVILLE
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Review Markings:
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Declassified/Released
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